

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activities in Wittenberg

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 10 June 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 1

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Between 14 and 17 May 1955, the Beseler Kaserne and the Flak Kaserne (3584 and 3583) in Wittenberg were still occupied to capacity by tank units. <sup>1</sup>

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2. During the night of 14/15 May, tanks left the Beseler and the Flak Kaserne and, on 15 May, crossed the Elbe River on a TMP-type ferry near Gallin. They assembled in the woods north of Wartenburg, which were restricted. The ferry carried one T-34 tank and, in a few cases, several armored scout cars at a time. After 16 May, the units practiced defense of bridge heads on either side of the Elbe River in the area between Gallin and Elster.<sup>2</sup>

3. On 16 and 17 May, the following shipments were observed at the Wittenberg railroad station:

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16 May. At night, a shipment of 23 trucks, 1 three-axle armored personnel carrier, 2 x 37-mm AA guns, 4 trucks and 2 x 85-mm AA guns was loaded and left toward Dessau in the morning of 17 May.

17 May. Two troop trains with 76-mm guns passed through Wittenberg en route toward Dessau. <sup>3</sup>

1. Comment. Previous reports tended to indicate that the movement to Jueterbog of the 7th Gds Tank Div included shipments of the 6th Gds Tank Div. The present report supports the assumption that exclusively units of the 7th Gds Tank Div assembled the Jueterbog - Werder-Markendorf area.

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2. Comment. The report indicates, that, contrary to observations made of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, the engineer battalion of the 6th Gds Tank Div remained in the division area. Compare with information on the shipment of engineer equipment from Sperenberg to Wittenberg on 20 May.

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3. Comment. The shipments are reported for the first time.

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